

## Oil Spill Prevention

*Oil spill prevention is a high priority for the U.S. Navy. When spills do occur, the Navy has equipment pre-staged worldwide and uses highly trained personnel to contain and clean up spills as rapidly as possible.*

- Navy activities report all oil spills, ranging from a small sheen (<1 cup) to vessel groundings (>100,000 gal), including spills from unknown sources. Reports are made through the Navy chain of command as well as to the National Response Center.
- The Navy maintains an in-house capability to respond to spills of all sizes. In addition to pollution control equipment strategically positioned at shore locations around the globe, every Navy ship is equipped with an oil spill kit that is designed to prevent spills from entering the water.
- The Navy works closely with the U.S. Coast Guard, EPA, state on-scene coordinators, and other affected stakeholders to contain oil spills from any source. For example, Navy fleet oil skimmers collected half of the crude oil recovered from the Exxon Valdez spill in Alaska.
- The best way to minimize oil spill effects is to keep oil out of the water. The Navy has an aggressive spill prevention program that is improving oil handling procedures, personnel training, equipment failures, technical documentation, design and maintenance.
- The Navy continues to strive to reduce the number and volume of oil spills. With its spill prevention program, the Navy concentrates on the entire spectrum of oil movement and has a total commitment to continuous improvement.



*Navy oil skimmer underway*



*Navy oil skimmer with boom deployed*



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